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Appl'n No. 09/537,800

In The Claims:

Please amend claims 1, 23-35, 48, 62-64, 72, 104-117, 131-140, 146-153 and 160-177 as follows (the unchanged claims are included for the convenience of the Examiner):

1. (Currently Amended) A method for voting shares comprising:
receiving by a computer preferences regarding how to vote a user's shares in a corporation in a future corporate voting votes, said preferences including an identification of one or more organizations whose voting recommendations are to be followed when voting the user's shares; and
automatically voting the user's shares by a computer in accordance with the received preferences in one or more subsequent corporate votes.
2. (Original) The method according to claim 1, further comprising:
completing a corporate voting form in accordance with the received preferences.
3. (Original) The method according to claim 1, further comprising:
communicating a completed corporate voting form to the corporation.
4. (Original) The method according to claim 1, further comprising:
converting a hard copy of a corporate voting form into an electronic format.
5. (Original) The method according to claim 1, further comprising:
converting a hard copy of a corporate voting form into a computer readable and communicable format.
6. (Original) The method according to claim 1, further comprising:
storing the preferences.

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7. (Original) The method according to claim 1, further comprising:
storing the preferences in a database.
8. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, further comprising:
communicating a list of a plurality of organizations to the user from among which the
user can select to follow when voting the user's shares.
9. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, further comprising:
rendering a list of a plurality of organizations to the user from among which the user
can select to follow when voting the user's shares.
10. (Original) The method according to claim 1, further comprising:
receiving voting recommendations regarding one or more corporate actions.
11. (Original) The method according to claim 1, further comprising:
receiving voting recommendations regarding one or more corporate actions from an
affinity group.
12. (Original) The method according to claim 1, further comprising:
storing voting recommendations regarding one or more corporate actions.
13. (Original) The method according to claim 1, further comprising:
entering voting recommendations regarding one or more corporate actions into a
database.
14. (Original) The method according to claim 1, further comprising:

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providing a user interface by which an affinity group enters voting recommendations on one or more upcoming corporate actions.

15. (Original) The method according to claim 1, further comprising:
providing one or more voting recommendations to the user.

16. (Original) The method according to claim 1, further comprising:
providing one or more voting preferences to the user.

17. (Original) The method according to claim 1, further comprising:
providing a layered set of alternative voting preferences for each user.

18. (Original) The method according to claim 1, further comprising:
rendering a list of one or more affinity groups that provide voter recommendations on one or more corporate voting actions by one or more corporations.

19. (Original) The method according to claim 1, further comprising:
receiving an indication of one or more of the affinity groups whose recommendations the user desires to consider when voting shares in at least one corporate action by at least one corporation.

20. (Original) The method according to claim 1, further comprising:
receiving a selection of one or more affinity groups whose recommendations the user desires to follow when voting the user's shares.

21. (Original) The method according to claim 1, further comprising:
receiving a selection of one or more affinity groups whose recommendations the user desires to oppose when voting the user's shares.

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22. (Original) The method according to claim 1, further comprising:
electronically communicating a user's vote to the corporation.

23. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the user's share
shares are voted based on a voting recommendation of one or more affinity groups selected
by the user.

24. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the user's share
shares are voted in accordance with a voting recommendation of one or more affinity groups
selected by the user.

25. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the user's share
shares are voted in opposition to a voting recommendation of one or more affinity groups
selected by the user.

26. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the user's share
shares are voted in accordance with a majority position held by a plurality of affinity groups
selected by the user.

27. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the user's share
shares are voted in opposition to a majority position held by a plurality of affinity groups
selected by the user.

28. (Currently Amended) A computer implemented method for voting shares
comprising:

receiving by a computer preferences regarding how to vote a user's shares in a
corporation in a future corporate votes voting, said preferences including an identification of

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one or more organizations whose voting recommendations are to be followed when voting the user's shares;

receiving by a computer a weight to apply to each of a plurality of affinity group's recommendations; and

automatically voting by a computer the user's shares in accordance with the received preferences in one or more subsequent corporate votes.

29. (Currently Amended) A computer implemented method for voting shares comprising:

receiving by a computer preferences regarding how to vote a user's shares in a corporation in a future corporate votes voting, said preferences including an identification of one or more organizations whose voting recommendations are to be followed when voting the user's shares;

receiving by a computer from the user a weight to apply to each of a plurality of affinity group's recommendations; and

automatically voting by a computer the user's shares in accordance with the received preferences in one or more subsequent corporate votes.

30. (Currently Amended) A computer implemented method for voting shares comprising:

receiving by a computer preferences regarding how to vote a user's shares in a corporation in a future corporate votes voting, said preferences including an identification of one or more organizations whose voting recommendations are to be followed when voting the user's shares;

applying by a computer a weight to each of a plurality of affinity group's recommendations; and

automatically voting by a computer the user's shares in accordance with the received preferences in one or more subsequent corporate votes.